

Amendments to the Abstract:

This abstract will replace all prior versions in the application:

ABSTRACT

The connector shell for a multiple wire cable assembly having multiple ground conductors and signal conductors comprises a housing [(18)] having a ground potential, and a multitude of contact elements [(46)] arranged in a longitudinal array [(44)]. The contact elements [(46)] are provided for making electrical contact to contact elements of a mating connector and comprise (i) grounding contact elements [(40)] for connecting to the ground conductors of the multiple wire cable assembly and (ii) signal contact elements [(42)] for connecting to the signal conductors of the multiple wire cable assembly. A longitudinal grounding plate [(24)] extends along ~~and in the longitudinal direction of~~ the array [(44)] of the contact elements [(46)], the grounding plate [(24)] having two lateral edges [(28)] at least one of which is provided for electrical connection to the ground potential of the housing [(18)]. The grounding plate [(24)] comprises throughholes [(62)] through which the grounding contact elements [(40)] extend. At the throughholes [(62)], the grounding contact elements [(40)] are electrically connected to the grounding plate [(24)].